abolished. From certain facts you seem to think that the Land Revenue Commissioner is not for abolishing the tolls. But I may tell you that he is also for abolishing the tolls and I expect orders being passed for the abolition before long.

As regards the abolition of the western toll-gate at Kuzhithura, I may tell you that Government have ordered that the toll-gate be shifted to the 22nd mile of the M. S. Road. Your other suggestions will be noted and necessary action taken.

Then you spoke about the working of the grant-in-aid Mission Hospital at Marthandam and the appointment of a qualified doctor there. You say that you want a qualified doctor. Different people may give different interpretations of the expression "qualified doctor". Here in Travancore we have got several grades of medical men. Any person who has passed a University medical examination is called a qualified doctor. According to our rules, persons who have a particular kind of training in Neyyoor are also considered fit to serve as Sub-Assistant Surgeons. You may say that you want a University qualified man. But the Administrative Board, Medical Services, says that a new man has been appointed in this hospital and his fitness is being watched. So far, he is found to be satisfactory. The Board considers that the institution is efficiently managed. Any medical man having some experience, who goes and spends some two or three hours in any institution, can decide for himself how it is worked by watching the treatment of the patients, the supply of medicines and other things.

With regard to the conversion of the Arumana dispensary into a hospital, Government are not at present satisfied that there is any necessity; and the existing accommodation is sufficient for the needs.

As regards the establishment of a Government dispensary at Putukada, there is some trouble about the selection of the site for the dispensary. The actual location has not been fixed.

73. Needs of the Vilavankod taluk.

MR. P. M. RAMAN PILLAI (*Municipal Council, Kuzhittura*) spoke on the following needs of the Vilavankod taluk:—

(1) Improvement of the buildings of the V. M. schools at Kuzhithura and Munchira. These buildings were in such a deplorable state that, if they had been used for holding private schools, the grants due to them would have been stopped.

(2) Botany should be taught as an optional subject in the English High School at Martandam. It would help to create some interest in the pupils to take to agriculture.

(3) An English Middle School for girls between Nagercoil and Trivandrum was very necessary. Kuzhithura was a central place and the school might be opened there.

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(4) An additional Munsiff's court should be opened at Kuzhithurai with jurisdiction over Nattalam, Killiyur and three other *pakuthies* of the old Eraniel taluk.

(5) The Kuzhithura Magistrate's court should be removed to a place on a higher level. Its existing location was in an insanitary place.

(6) The clerical staff of the Kuzhithura Munsiff's court was overworked. Additional staff should therefore be employed. That would tend to put down corruption also. Temptation to become corrupt would come only when the staff had to do extra work.

(7) The Police jurisdiction over Kizhkulam and Killiyur *pakuthies* should be taken away from the Vilavankod Police station and given to the Kuzhithura Police station.

(8) The Mission Hospital at Marthandam was not in any way useful to the public. Even for first aid, doctors had to be got down from elsewhere. The hospital should be taken over by the Government and managed by them.

(9) The following were the needs in respect of the Public Works Department:—

(*a*) Improvement of the lane between Marangattukadavu and Parthivapuram,

(*b*) Repair of the Chennittottam bridge.

(*c*) Conversion into cart roads of—

(i) the Kuzhithura—Kuzhivila trace;

(ii) the Madichal – Padannalummud trace; and

(iii) the Putukada—Kollenkod trace.

(*d*) The working of the Chittar scheme.

(*e*) Improvement of irrigation works and restoration of tanks.

(10) The Ashtami festival in the Tirumala temple in Vrischikam and the Bharani festival in Kollankod in the month of Meenam were important festivals for the Hindu inhabitants of the Vilavankod taluk. These two days should therefore be declared as public holidays for the Vilavankod taluk. If necessary, two Saturdays might be considered as working days, so far as schools were concerned.

(11) The Vilavankod taluk should be made a separate constituency for purposes of election to the Legislative council.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Raman Pillai, your first subject is about the improvement of the buildings of the Vernacular Middle Schools at Kuzhithura and Munchira. An estimate has been called for, and is being prepared by the Division officer, for the Kuzhithura school; with regard to the Munchira school, the matter is under correspondence with the Inspector of Vernacular Schools.

With regard to the introduction of Botany as an optional subject, this can be considered only later on, as the Director of Public Instruction says that it is not necessary now in view of the fact that the E. S. L. C. course has to be revised so as to bring it into line with the Madras S. S. L. C. course.

As regards the English Middle School for girls, I may tell you that the policy of the Government is not to increase the number of departmental schools; but they are prepared to encourage private enterprise as

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far as possible by helping with grants private schools conforming to the Code.

Your representation on judicial matters will be referred to the Law's Delays Officer, who will be shortly appointed. As regards the additional clerical staff in the Kuzhithura Munsiff's court, that matter also will, to some extent, depend upon the recommendations of that officer.

Your suggestions with regard to the Police jurisdiction will be noted and taken up for consideration along with the re-allocation scheme.

With regard to the establishment of dispensaries at Putukada and Kuzhithura, you heard the replies I gave to the previous representation by the member for Vilavancode. Your suggestions will be noted.

As regards communications, such of them as are important will be referred to the Road Board.

Your representation regarding irrigation works will be referred to the Irrigation Committee.

The question of declaring the Ashtami day and the Bharani day as holidays was brought to the notice of the Government at prior sessions. I will order an enquiry to be made in regard to this.

With regard to your last subject, I may say that it is a matter which will be noted and considered when the Legislative Council Rules are revised.

74. Needs of the Vilavankod taluk.

MR. MAHOMED HANEEF (*Nominated*) first spoke about the need for opening a dispensary at Tengapattanam. The need therefor had been brought to the notice of the Government on prior occasions and the Inspecting Medical Officer himself was convinced of the need when he was touring the locality during the last cholera season. The people were then put to much hardship for want of proper medical aid. There was a building available for holding the dispensary, *viz.*, the old customs house.

On account of the absence of a lady doctor in the Mission Hospital at Martandam, the women of the Vilavankod were experiencing much hardship and inconvenience. A lady doctor should therefore be appointed in that institution without further delay.

The Kuzhithura-Tengapattanam road was in a very bad and neglected condition. The road had not been gravelled for the past 5 years. It was dusty in summer and miry in winter. The motor traffic on the road was very heavy. It should therefore be improved and metalled without further delay. The work should be started immediately and not referred to the Road Board.

The wooden bridge at Chennittottam was frequently in disrepair and not strong enough to bear heavy weights. Consequently, no bus could be driven on it. As this bridge was situate between two busy towns,

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